

## WHAT WERE THE ISSUES?

To the Editor of THE ADVOCATE.

SIR:—I having been a so-called republican for twenty-five years, and having been a volunteer soldier and lost my left foot during the war, but having in alliance been carrying my grievances, and having hopelessly hoped for better and more just legislation toward the soldier and the working men in general, but having looked with distrust to new organizations and longed for betterment, I have joined the Farmers' Alliance, with the hope that our way may be opened for reform. You speak too much of the McKinley bill being the cause of the late Kansas election. I differ with you on that. The McKinley bill was not old enough and not known enough to have much to do with the farmer vote. I think there are thousands of farmers who voted as I did. They voted the alliance ticket straight, because they felt they had to do something to break the chain or aristocracy which they themselves had voted carelessly around their necks. But you must not jubilate too fast, for what have you to say for your soldier friend in your platform? Are you going to advocate that it takes too much money out of the treasury to pay the soldier's dues? How about the service pension? Do you agree with the monopolists that it will pauperize the country to give a service pension? I call this only giving us the interest on depreciated money received in service, and the bondholder got more than his lawful interest. If you wish to continue as the friend of reform you must give us light upon this subject, for this done, and satisfactorily, you will gain instead of lose followers. But your reticence on this subject makes the suspicion strong with the cry raised against our party, that is, that it is a part of the southern or rebel democracy. Your character must be plain and straight in all, so therefore show your colors to the world that you are neither rebel nor yankee, but an advocate of just and honest principles. Hoping my few lines may find a corresponding feeling in your heart I remain yours respectfully,

F. W. BAUM,  
Caldwell, Kan.

We fear our correspondent has not read THE ADVOCATE or studied the platform of the people's party as closely as he should have done in order to act and vote intelligently for the interests of so much importance to him. We believe it will trouble him to find where THE ADVOCATE has spoken of the McKinley bill as the cause of the political change in Kansas. We do not believe this heresy, and have never so expressed ourselves. We believe reform of our tariff legislation is necessary, but that this is not one of the most important questions to be settled.

If our friend will turn to the platform of the people's party adopted at our state convention, and upon which we stood during the campaign and still stand to-day, he will find the following as one of its planks:

We favor a service pension to every union soldier and sailor, and we believe justice demands that the depreciated currency in which they were paid should be made good, and as full and complete faith kept with the soldiers as with the bondholders, and that ex-prisoners of war be remunerated for the time served in prison.

Our correspondent is like many others. He has not read enough, and he has jumped at a conclusion without informing himself of the facts about which he has undertaken to write. Does he want any better pension doctrine than that embraced in the above plank of our party platform?

## THE ALLIANCE STILL DISINTEGRATING.

STOCKTON NEWS.

Special to the Capital.

STOCKTON, Kan., December 26.—News has been very scarce in this part of the country since the election, but politics, now that the Florida convention is over and that the election of a United States Senator to succeed Hon. John J. Ingalls is near, are getting warm. While Mr. Rouse, the alliance representative, is personally a friend of John J. Ingalls, and would like to vote for him, yet it looks as though he would follow the instructions of his constituency. The fact is Ingalls has grown in favor with the alliance in the last month, and especially since the Florida convention. I heard one of the leading alliance men of this county say he now hoped Ingalls would be elected. We do not believe that the alliance are nearly as strong today in

Rooks county as a month before election.

FROM MEADE COUNTY.

The alliance is not near as strong as it was at the election. It having at that time greatly decreased. I do not now recall a farmer republican in it who has not been an aspirant for office in the party and been defeated. The trouble is, there are not enough offices to go around, and the people being rather hard up, all want office.

It will be seen by the above clippings from the Capital that the idiotic policy is still being pursued by that stupid journal of persistently endeavoring to deceive the people. Reports received at the state secretary's office show a constant increase in the membership of the order in all parts of the state, and yet the Capital tells its readers the alliance is diminishing in strength. How long will people continue to support a paper whose sole purpose is to suppress information and deceive its readers?

## PURE FOOD PRODUCTS.

With the perversity characteristic of the partisan press it is reported that the Ocala convention passed a resolution denouncing the pure lard bill. This is absolutely false. The Ocala convention adopted a resolution condemning the Conger bill, which is entitled, "A bill (H. B. 11,568) defining 'lard,' also imposing a tax upon, and regulating the manufacture and sale, importation and exportation of compound lard." This bill contemplates the manufacture and sale of adulterated lard. The convention also endorsed the pure food bill, which of course includes pure lard.

The action of the convention is therefore directly the opposite of what it is reported to be, and this is just about as near the truth as the partisan press ever gets in whatever relates to anything done by the alliance.

We have received resolutions from several alliances in condemnation of the Federal election bill. These come from men who have formerly been members of both the old parties. The measure is regarded as un-American, and not in the interest of honest government. We do not wish to again begin the publication of resolutions, and unless in very exceptional cases we shall not publish anything of this kind. It opens the door to an overwhelming flood which we cannot possibly find room for, and our only remedy is to treat all alike in regard to this class of communications. If our friends could see the overwhelming mass of resolutions that come to our table they would at once see the utter impossibility of finding room for them, even if we should devote the entire paper to them. We are therefore forced to reject them all and treat them all alike in this matter.

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Hon. J. H. Chubb, member elect of the legislature, desires us to state that his address is Baxter Springs, Cherokee county, Kansas. Those who desire to communicate with Mr. Chubb will please take notice.

The columns of THE ADVOCATE will be full of interesting matter during 1891 for all who are interested in the great reform movement. Do not let subscription run out.

## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from first page.)

an ex-officio chairman of the legislative committee, continued his report, saying that the legislative committee had at the beginning of the year commenced work without instructions and without a precedent; that they had been cautious and conservative; that the work had required a vast amount of work and expense, all of which had been paid by the chairman from his own salary, and that the growth of sentiment in Congress was the most forcible testimonial of the efficient work of this committee. He cautioned the order as to the great responsibility resting upon this body at this time as to what action it takes in regard to the political situation. The order could never participate in any partisan political effort, and in the south it was opposed to giving its sanction to any independent or third party move on the part of the members, while in the west and northwest the order will retrograde if such action is not given. In this emergency he thought he had a compromise to offer that would meet the case exactly, and that was for this body to hereby say that it gives its sanction and call for a meeting to be held about February, 1892, to be composed of delegates from all organizations of producers upon a fair basis of representation for the purpose of general and thorough conference upon the demands of each, and to the end that all may agree upon a joint set of demands just prior to the next national campaign, and agree upon the proper methods of enforcing such demands. If the people by delegates coming direct from them agree that a third party move is necessary, it need not be feared; and that the next session of this supreme council elect delegates from this order to represent it in said national conference of productive organizations for political purposes.

Motion by Livingston, of Georgia, duly seconded and carried, that all of the above report be adopted except such parts as modify the constitution, and that they be referred to committee on constitution.

Resolved that the committee on constitution be enlarged eleven instead of five. Carried.

The following additional members appointed: Perdue, of Texas; Page, of Virginia; Leonard, of Missouri; Stewart, Indian Territory; Peck, of Georgia, and Davis, of Kentucky.

Report of the State Business Agents' Association read and referred to committee on constitution.

The finance committee made the following report on the secretary's books:

Your committee on finance beg leave to report that we have examined the books of Secretary John H. Turner, and find the same tally with the printed balance sheet. In the limited time in which this body sits, it is impossible for your committee to make a thorough examination of the secretary's books and account by tracing each entry through the books and comparing with the vouchers, etc. But from the cursory examination we have been able to make in the limited time, we believe all moneys of this organization which have come into the secretary's hands have been properly accounted for.

The report of the committee on cotton and tare was read and adopted:

OCALA, Fla., December 5, 1890.

Your committee on cotton and tare on cotton bales beg leave to report the interests of the cotton growers in this country demand that the usage of selling cotton by gross weight, now prevailing in all the cotton markets of this country, be supplanted by a system of selling cotton by net weight. The reasons that call for this change have been so fully discussed and ventilated that we deem it unnecessary to embody them in this report. We would simply refer to the well known fact that in fixing the price for gross weight the buyers provide invariably for an allowance of 6 per cent., which always exceeds the actual tare on the bales. To accomplish this reform, which will save hundreds of thousands of dollars to the cotton growers annually, your committee are convinced that continued work in various directions is necessary. Past experience has shown that the cotton exchanges of this country are not prepared to assist us efficiently, and it seems clear that we must bring desired influence to bear on European markets, if we are to succeed.

With this end in view we recommend that a special committee of three be appointed, viz.: T. A. Clayton, of Louisiana; W. A. Brighton, of Georgia; George Gaither, of Alabama, whose duty it shall be to take charge of this question, and if, in their opinion and after exhausting negotiation by correspondence, a personal visit to any of the markets in this country or in Europe be necessary to accomplish the desired object, they are hereby authorized to act accordingly.

The expenses of this committee shall be

defrayed by means of equal subscriptions from the ten cotton states, to be equally divided between the alliance and exchange of each state, the sum to be collected from each alliance and exchange not to exceed \$250 in the next year, unless by unsolicited tender.

The committee shall select from their number a treasurer, who shall render to the judiciary committee of the National Alliance and Industrial Union full account of all moneys received and expended.

The treasurer when elected is hereby authorized to apply in the name of the National Alliance and Industrial Union to the authorities of the various state alliances and exchanges for the payment of their subscriptions to this fund at the earliest possible date.

The cotton committee recommends that it should further be the duty of this special committee to negotiate in the same way with manufacturers in this country and abroad with a view to placing the agents of the alliance exchanges, who attended to the sale of cotton, in as close communication as possible with the manufacturers who consume it, and to institute such other reforms in the trade as may be of vital importance to the cotton growers.

T. A. CLAYTON, Ch.  
WM. L. PARK,  
Geo. T. GAITHER.

Unanimously adopted by the State Business Agents' Association, December 5, 1890.  
J. B. DIXON, President.  
OSWALD WILSON, Secretary.

Following committees were appointed: Committee on secret work, Demming, of Pennsylvania; Perdue, of Texas; Burke, of Georgia. Committee on permanent summer encampment, Demming, of Pennsylvania; Mitchell, of Maryland; Beverley, of Virginia.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

Moved by Secretary Turner that a special committee be appointed to consist of three, to memorialize Congress on the Louisiana lottery, and that the president of this body; Brother L. L. Polk, be made its chairman. Unanimously carried.

A committee of five was appointed to take under consideration the subject matter contained in a telegram from the general director of the Columbian Exposition. The following committee was appointed: Loucka, Cole, Vance and Crum.

Livingston, of Georgia, arose and spoke to a question of personal privilege. He was followed by C. W. Macune and L. L. Polk, who spoke to the same question. The tenor of their remarks was that the newspapers and persons had circulated reports which reflected on the character and official acts of each. Macune stated that it had been generally reported that charges would be brought against him and defied any man to bring any charges or adduce any evidence on which charges could be based. He was not on the defensive and could not be put on the defensive. All three agreed in demanding a thorough and complete investigation by a committee composed of one from each state. This was granted and the following committee of investigation appointed: McDowell, of Tennessee; Allen, of New York; Demming, of Pennsylvania; Mitchell, of Maryland; Beverley, of Virginia; Vance, of North Carolina; Latimer, of South Carolina; Wright, of Georgia; Hine, of Florida; Bone, of Alabama; Burgett, of Mississippi; Adams, of Louisiana; Jones, of Texas; Barker, of Arkansas; McGrath, of Kansas; Hall, of Missouri; Winn, of Kentucky; Crum, of Illinois; Force, of Indiana; Howe, of Michigan; Houston, of West Virginia; Vestal, of California; Starr, of Colorado; Stewart, of Indian Territory; Sanford, of North Dakota; Van Doren, of South Dakota.

This action was taken on the afternoon of the second day's session. The committee being now prepared to report, it was moved, that the special order of business suspend until we hear the report of the investigating committee. Carried.

Your committee appointed to investigate the rumors and reports published implicating the character, integrity and fidelity to duty of the president of this organization, the chairman of the Executive Board, and the president of the Georgia State Alliance, and this at the earnest solicitude of the brethren named, state that they have discharged the duty assigned them to the fullest of their ability and respectfully report.

1. That they have been unable to ascertain a single fact implicating in any way, shape or form the high character and standing and personal and official reputation of our worthy president, Brother L. L. Polk, but we regret the writing of the Norwood letter.

2. That as to Brother Livingston, president of the Georgia State Alliance, we do not find anything derogatory of his personal or official high standing or integrity,